

## THE TIMES-DISPATCH

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1907.

TOO GOOD TO FAIL.  
We shall be sure to succeed;  
the cause is too good a one to fail.—Dick-  
ens.

### A Campaign of Improvement.

The "new-building campaign" of the  
Y. M. C. A. was fairly launched yester-  
day afternoon, and will be pushed with  
vigor. Richmond is more prosperous than  
ever she was since her charter was  
received. In the past twenty years, since  
the present Y. M. C. A. building was  
erected, her real and personal property  
has doubled in value, and she should, as  
a mere expression of gratitude, respond  
promptly to this appeal for \$200,000 to  
give the Y. M. C. A. a suitable home.

But apart from the sentimental ques-  
tion involved, the erection of a new  
building for the Y. M. C. A. of this  
city is a business proposition, which  
should commend itself as such to every  
thoughtful business man. The Y. M. C.  
A. is not under obligations to Richmond;  
the obligation is on the other side of  
the account. We are at pains from time  
to time to publish to the world the as-  
sets of the city. We speak of our real  
and personal property valuation. We  
speak of our great manufacturing con-  
cerns, of our large jobbing trade, of our  
Water Works and Gas Works, and of all  
the valuable property which the corpora-  
tion itself owns; but after all, our  
greatest assets are the men of the com-  
munity, and our young men are its most  
valuable of all. They are our richest  
assets, for at the last must the city de-  
pend upon them for her growth and  
progress, for her good government, for  
the support of her churches, her schools  
and all her institutions, and for carry-  
ing on all her affairs, private and public.  
We cannot afford to neglect them. It  
is good business, to say nothing of good  
morals, to throw around all possible  
influences for good, to aid them in  
their physical, mental and moral develop-  
ment, to do whatsoever we may keep  
them out of the saloons and away from  
all evil surroundings, and to that end  
to assemble them in the evening, when  
they are at leisure and when temptation  
is greatest, in an attractive building,  
whose atmosphere is pure, and whose  
means of entertainment and instruction  
are the best that can be devised.

It may be that the Y. M. C. A. is not  
the best means that could be devised for  
the salvation of the young men, but it  
is the best that has been devised. It is  
the only public institution which we have  
for the exclusive benefit of young men  
and boys, and the good work which it  
has done is more than sufficient to com-  
mend it to the good will and tender con-  
sideration of the public, and to command  
public support.

So well has this work been done that  
the institution has far outgrown the  
present building, and its work is greatly  
hampered by lack of room and equip-  
ment. But with a new building such as  
is contemplated, and with revenues suf-  
ficient to defray its expenses, its power  
for good will be enormously enhanced,  
and its record is a guarantee that the  
good results will be proportionately in-  
creased.

There are in the city of Richmond a  
number of rich and well-equipped social  
clubs, and all are prosperous and at-  
tractive. It should be our aim in erect-  
ing a new Y. M. C. A. building to make  
it the most attractive of all resorts in  
the city, not only that the building may  
draw young men by reason of its at-  
tractions, but that in itself it may be an  
expression of the interest which the rep-  
resentative men of this community feel  
in the young.

The campaign is on, and it must not  
fail. The campaign will in itself awaken  
and develop public spirit and civic right-  
eousness, if only the leading men of the  
city will put their righteous energy into  
it. Richmond needs such a campaign,  
and it should be welcomed. We need to  
arouse ourselves. We need to touch el-  
bow and work heart and soul together  
in a good cause. It is an opportunity  
from God himself, and we dare not neg-  
lect it, to confer a benefit upon the young  
men, but directly and specifically to pro-  
mote personal godliness, which, as Mayor  
McCarthy so aptly pointed out, "is prob-  
ably one of all things, having promise of  
the life that now is, and of that which  
is to come."

The campaign is on, and we DARE  
NOT let it fail.

### A Sure Remedy.

According to reports sent out from Port  
Reno, Okl., the negro soldiers at that  
post had formed a conspiracy to murder  
every white officer, beginning with Cap-  
tain Edgar A. Macklin, against whom, it  
is said, many negroes at the post enter-  
tain a grudge as a result of the affair  
at Brownsville. It is further reported  
that a suspicion rests upon negro sol-  
diers at Nebraska, Neb., and at three  
other points.

In view of these and other similar re-

ports, following on the heels of the  
Brownsville incident, it will be hard to  
make the general public believe that the  
recent order assembling all negro troops  
to the Philippines was a matter of routine  
and without design. The negro soldiers  
are giving the War Department much  
anxiety, if not actual trouble, and the  
department would feel much relieved, no  
doubt, to have them all removed beyond  
the seas.

The subject of deportation of the negro  
race as a solution of the negro problem  
has been often discussed, but it is imprac-  
ticable. Nor would it be just to banish  
the good negroes of the country, who are  
largely in the majority, because of the  
sins of the bad. But it would be practi-  
cable and it would be a complete solu-  
tion of the problem, so far as this coun-  
try is concerned, if each and every bad  
negro convicted of a felony should be  
banished to the Philippines, or to some  
other island belonging to the United  
States. In every such case we should rid  
ourselves at once and forever of that par-  
ticular bad negro, and that mode of pun-  
ishment would be a terror to the criminal  
class of blacks. If they understood that  
upon conviction of felony they would be  
sent forever from the land they love  
so well, the restraining influence would be  
incalculable.

The idea is by no means original or  
new. On February 15, 1825, the General  
Assembly of Virginia enacted a law pro-  
viding that "if, after the first day of  
March, any free negro or mulatto feloniously  
take, steal, and carry away any goods  
or chattels to the value of \$10, or  
upwards, or any other thing to the value  
of \$10, or upwards, the stealing whereof  
is made felony by law, he or she so  
offending shall be deemed guilty of grand  
larceny, and, being thereof duly con-  
victed, shall be punished by stripes, sale,  
transportation and banishment."

That statute is now out of date, but a  
new statute in each State could legally  
be enacted and enforced providing banish-  
ment or imprisonment, in the discretion of  
the jury, as a punishment for felony.  
Such a statute would apply to both races,  
and would be the means of getting rid of  
bad white men as well as bad negroes.  
However, we are not prepared to recom-  
mend it.

### An Honest Governor.

Hurrah for Governor S. H. Elrod, of  
South Dakota, who, in his retiring ad-  
dress to the Legislature, denounced in  
emphatic terms the deal by which that  
State came in possession of some \$25,000  
through sub against the State of North  
Carolina, on bonds issued by North Caro-  
lina during the carpetbag regime. The  
Governor said that the State had no  
right to take the money, and that the  
university to which it was given should  
not have touched it because it was  
tainted. He, therefore, recommended that  
the Legislature pass a bill to return the  
money to North Carolina. He concluded  
by saying that it was evident that inge-  
nuous schemers were using the State for  
private ends.

Precisely so. These schemers had no  
love for South Dakota, and did not give  
the bonds to that State, except to carry  
out their own design. They could not do  
themselves bring suit against North Caro-  
lina, and so by a bargain engaged the  
State of South Dakota to bring suit for  
them. To say the least, it was an un-  
dignified and unfriendly act on the part  
of a sister State, and a reproach upon  
South Dakota, which can only be re-  
moved by following the suggestion of  
the retiring Governor, and refunding the  
money.

### The Mosaic Law.

The address of the Rev. Dr. Calhoun  
before the City Bar Association, on the  
Mosaic law, as published in The Times-  
Dispatch of yesterday, was scholarly and  
inspiring. The Bible law is the founda-  
tion of all law, the warp and woof of  
the law, and if it should be eliminated  
we should have chaos and anarchy. It  
is the law that has been tested and proven  
by centuries of practice, and the whole  
world would be better if the laws of  
Moses were more rigidly observed.

But the glory of the Mosaic law as  
administered was the lesson and the  
spirit of obedience which it taught. In  
the eyes of God the greatest sin which  
Israel committed from time to time was  
the sin of disobedience. Invariably when  
that sin was committed the penalty was  
sure, and Israel was compelled to re-  
pent in sackcloth and ashes before the  
nation was restored to favor.

It is that spirit among the people which  
is the life of the law, and without which  
the law becomes a dead letter. The law  
has no inherent force. It must be sus-  
tained by public sentiment, or it will  
perish.

### Mr. Pollard's View.

We have received the following com-  
munication:  
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:  
Sir,—In regard to your editorial in this  
morning's paper as to the proposition made  
by the Virginia Passenger and Power  
Company to sell the city current and  
the New Pump-House, I beg to make a  
few comments.

To substantiate my assertion that the  
Passenger and Power Company will do  
nothing except "at the point of the bay-  
onet," the Council will be asked to-mor-  
row night to appropriate \$100,000. For  
what? To force the company to give us  
a fair and equitable adjustment of the  
damage they have done to our water and  
gas mains by electrolysis. Professor Mau-  
rice estimates several years ago that it  
amounted to \$170,000. The company first  
offered to settle with us for \$20,000; then  
offered \$30,000, provided we do not make  
them install the double overhead system—  
or, in other words, let them continue to  
run our pipe lines, that have cost the  
city over \$1,000,000.

In regard to the above, I do not wish  
to reflect on the gentlemen who represent  
the company HERE. I have a high  
respect for all of them, and believe they  
have the interest of the city at heart.

Now, just two questions.  
First—Is it wise for one of the most  
valuable, certainly the most necessary,  
asset of the city (the Water Works) to be  
dependent on an outside concern, that  
might give us lots of trouble?  
Second—Suppose we abandon the Old  
Pump-House property and make no use of  
it for five or ten years. The Virginia  
Passenger and Power Company own the  
lands in the river, and by building dams,

may divert the flow of the river from our  
side, and our property, worth \$200,000,  
will be ruined. Can we take this chance?  
Yours truly,  
H. H. POLLARD, Jr.

In reply to Mr. Pollard's first conten-  
tion, we have only to say that the Pas-  
senger and Power Company is a respon-  
sible corporation, and can be made to live  
up to all its contracts. To refuse to  
make a contract with it which is so man-  
ifestly to the advantage of the city  
simply because the company has injured  
our water pipes, and is not willing to pay  
more damage than it is compelled to pay,  
would be about as unwise as for citizens  
to refuse to ride on its cars or to use its  
electric lights for the same reason. The  
Passenger and Power Company does not  
want the city to erect a municipal plant  
for manifest reasons, and if the city  
should make a contract with it for elec-  
tric power, clearly it would be in the  
interest of the company to give the city  
a satisfactory service; otherwise the city  
would cancel the contract and erect its  
own plant, the very thing that the Pas-  
senger and Power Company is trying to  
prevent.

Mr. Pollard's second contention seems  
to us to have as little force as the first.  
Does he mean to say that we could not  
legally restrain the Passenger and Power  
Company from destroying our water  
power? But if we could not do so with-  
out a municipal plant, how could we  
protect our rights with a municipal plant?  
Suppose we should erect a plant, and the  
Passenger and Power Company should do  
as Mr. Pollard forecasts—divert the  
flow of water and ruin our water power—  
what would then become of our electric  
plant? And from what source would we  
get electric current to do our extra  
pumping and light our streets? In the  
words of Mr. Pollard, can we take this  
chance? If the Passenger and Power  
Company is going to steal our water  
power, would it be good business for the  
city to spend \$150,000 to erect an electric  
plant which would depend on this power  
for its life?

But this contingency, in either event,  
is too remote to be seriously discussed.  
The question is whether or not it is wise  
for the city to go in debt to erect a  
municipal plant when it can purchase  
from the Passenger and Power Company  
all the current it needs as cheaply as it  
could make it?

Those Republican leaders who are said  
to be planning a "concerted" attack on  
Mr. Roosevelt, should bear in mind that  
they are dealing with a man not afraid  
to face any kind of music.

Hon. Morgan Trent states that "even  
level-headed men" should know a few  
level-headed men. The others, appar-  
ently, are so level-headed that they never  
save Hon. Morgan a chance to know  
them.

Asked what he thought of Alexander  
Berkman and Emma Goldman, Dr. Gre-  
gory Gershung, noted Russian revolu-  
tionist, replied: "Nothing." Which re-  
sult, when you come to think of it,  
covers the situation quite deftly.

Mr. Jerome is laying plans to keep  
the yellow journals of New York away  
from the Thaw trial. Doubtless the Even-  
ing Post expects to make a scoop out  
of this.

The per capita consumption of pig-iron  
this year is figured at 650 pounds. Any  
reader of this item who consumes his  
full share can probably lay claim to a  
pig-iron constitution.

A lady from Navesink, N. J., has just  
completed a valise search of many thou-  
sands of miles for her missing husband.  
Some women would not recognize a hint  
if they were introduced to it.

New York is to have a new office  
building containing forty-eight stories of  
high life. It should be called the mag-  
azine building.

From present indications it appears  
that the man who predicted a very severe  
winter must have had his prophetic eye  
on the coal trust.

All will be forgiven the President if he  
will only firmly resolve to confine him-  
self hereafter to one special message pe-  
riod.

A Kentucky man has filed a petition  
for divorce which contains only ten lines.  
But it is a safe gamble that they weren't  
the sort falling in pleasant places.

Those who turned over a new leaf Janu-  
ary 1st are now beginning to feel around  
to make sure that the old one isn't too  
securely gummed down.

In its wildest dreams Brownsville  
never anticipated any such spot-light ef-  
fects as these.

Probably the German scientist who  
claims to have seen smoke on the moon  
ordinarily takes Scotch.

Still, the railroads should not be sur-  
prised if people begin referring to it as  
the blockhead system.

Harriman buys railroads for his leisure's  
beguilement, but no one knows what he  
really does with his money.

Revolting news is again coming from  
Nicaragua.

### Tyler-Phillips Mule Case.

Sir,—After waiting some time to see  
if your Amherst correspondent had noted  
the unusual occurrence connected with the  
Tyler-Phillips mule case, I conclude  
that it has escaped his notice, and beg  
leave to call your attention to a few facts.

In several issues of The Times-Dispatch  
it was stated that Messrs. F. B. Tyler  
and R. L. Phillips had been indicted for  
the alleged acceptance of a bribe from  
buying mules for county use. These  
statements were made under headlines  
sufficiently large to attract the attention  
of all your readers. Through some ac-  
cident, I presume, the account of the ac-  
quittal of these gentlemen was given in  
your issue of November 22d under the  
heading, "Virginia Briefs." The writer,  
a personal friend of one of the accused,  
and looking for that item, came very near  
never seeing it at all. The fear that  
many acquaintances throughout the State  
did not see it leads me to ask that you  
give more prominence to their vindication.  
The fact I wish you to give the public  
is that when this case was tried an im-  
partial jury, after very short absence  
from the court-room, rendered a verdict  
of acquittal. This is considered by all a  
complete vindication.

Knowing The Times-Dispatch to be too  
fair-minded to allow a case of this kind  
to stand on the good name of any citi-  
zen, I feel entire confidence in making  
this request. Your compliance therewith  
will greatly oblige one who believes in a  
SQUARE DEAL.

Amherst, Va.

A copy of this letter was sent to The  
Times-Dispatch in December, but mis-  
carried. This accounts for the delay in  
publication.

## Rhymes for To-Day

Wanted: A Ghost-Layer.

[We are in receipt of a circular from  
Prof. Matthews and confederates plead-  
ing with us to use the List of 300 Skim-  
ped Words.]  
PHONETICS, I thought you were  
deader  
Than any door-nail one could find;  
Meseemed that was what I had read  
or  
Divined.

Methought your Internet oration  
Had lately been given by Ted,  
And you had won thanks from the nation  
As dead.

Madreamed that your bi-utinary  
Was written, with fit epithet;  
And I had begun to grow merry  
And laugh.

But here, by the land of the living—  
Nay, in it—I leap from your sheet,  
And kick, with delight past forgiving,  
Your feet.

And cry: "It is I—give me welcome!  
Pin clusters of roses on me!"  
To Us—who had watched your grim knell  
—With grief!

Phonetics, with bitterest ire,  
Your coming to life I observe,  
But confess that I greatly admire  
Your nerve.

But ghosts no more glide down the  
hallways:  
Doc, Matthews, comel—haven't you  
read  
Stay dead?

—H. S. H.

### MERELY JOKING.

Relief in the Baby's Cries.

"Why doesn't your wife sing to the baby  
when it cries?"  
"She used to, until we discovered that the  
neighbors preferred to hear the baby."—Cleveland  
Leader.

Potatoes Looking Up.

Bacon—I see potatoes in France are nearly  
died the price of last year.

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died the price of last year.

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## People Seen in Public Places

Mr. George L. Hart, of Roanoke, a  
member of the firm of Morris and Hart,  
expert stenographers, is here taking the  
report of the proceedings of the legisla-  
tive committee which is looking into  
the book question, and is stopping at the  
Hotel Allen. Mr. Hart is a prominent  
Republican, and has served several terms  
in the Board of Aldermen in the Maglo  
City. He is a most pleasant gentleman,  
and his friends easily wherever he  
goes.

"Roanoke is booming," he said last  
night, "and our people are not much ex-  
cited over politics at this time. They  
are attending to business and making  
money. There is one thing which has  
been bubbling up at recent sessions of the  
Legislature, however, upon which all our  
people are united, and that is the propo-  
sition to change the method of the as-  
sessment of the rolling stock of railroad  
companies. Roanoke is for the present  
plan, and all we ask for is to be left  
alone in this matter, for the assessment  
now made and collected there means a  
great deal to our people."

Mr. James B. Blanks, of Petersburg,  
Grand Secretary of the Royal Arcanum  
in Virginia, was at Murphy's last night.

"Are you going to run for the Legisla-  
ture next fall?" former Delegate Samuel  
L. Kelley was asked in one of the lobbies  
last night, his name having frequently  
been mentioned as a probable aspirant.  
"I think not," he replied, "but I will  
tell you what I am going to do. I will  
leave in a few days for an extended  
Southern trip in the interest of the  
James River Exposition. I will go to Ten-  
nessee and Alabama, and will appear be-  
fore the Legislatures in an effort to